All anesthesia and monitoring equipment must be maintained in good working condition to assure optimal anesthetic agent delivery in a safe manner. Anesthesia equipment includes anesthesia machines and vaporizers, and stand alone vaporizers. Examples of monitoring equipment include: EKG, pulse oximetry, and end tidal CO2 devices.

The primary standard for vaporizer recalibration / certification is to be governed by manufacturer’s recommendations. If manufacturer’s recommendations are not available, the equipment must be validated annually. If the equipment has been out of service for more than one year, it must be validated before being put into service. Certification consists of the inspection and approval of all mechanics associated with the vaporizer and anesthesia machine. Calibration consists of the scientific analysis of the emitted gas and insuring the accuracy of the concentration settings and subsequent correction as needed.

Waste anesthesia gas must be scavenged. The scavenging equipment must be maintained in good working order to ensure a safe working environment. Active scavenging is preferred and can be done by use of dedicated evacuation systems or house vacuum, (if house vacuum is exhausted directly outside the building to the atmosphere). Passive scavenging may be accomplished using a Vaporguard canister or comparable scavenging. If charcoal filters are used for scavenging they must be weighed before and after each use.

All anesthesia and monitoring equipment is to be serviced by a qualified personnel or an authorized service center. Certification should include an inspection of the entire anesthetic machine, not just the vaporizer. Qualified personnel must be experienced in clinical equipment maintenance, service and certification.

Vaporizer Calibration services are available from:
Keomed [Dave Olsen; 1-800-328-6216; cell: 612-270-9416]
Draeger (services only Draeger machines and vaporizers):800 4-DRAGER (437-2437)

Service for all anesthesia machines and vaporizers:
Eagle Eye Anesthesia: 800-760-6976
IGN Medical: 888-256-2723
Vetamac: 800-334-1583
Anesthesia Equipment Services, 1-800-809-8499; only comes three times a year, January, spring and fall and only does work during these times by appointment.

Additional information : http://www.research.umn.edu/iacuc/